Montana State Legislature

2015 SESSION

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

Business Page
[Signed by Chairman]
Roll Call
Standing Committee Reports
Tabled Bills
Fiscal Reports
Rolls Call Votes
Proxy Forms
Visitor Registrations

*Any other documents, which were submitted after the committee hearing has ended and/or was submitted late [within 48 hours], regarding information in the committee hearing.

*Witness Statements that were not presented as exhibits.

Montana Historical Society Archives
225 N. Roberts
Helena MT 59620-1201
2015 Legislative
E-Document Specialist Susie Hamilton

BUSINESS REPORT

MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

SENATE ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2015

Place: Capitol

Time: 3:00 PM

Room: 317-A

BILLS and RESOLUTIONS HEARD:

SB 305 - Revise renewable energy laws - Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary

SB 312 - Generally revise USB laws - Sen. Mike Phillips

SB 327 - Revise qualifying facility laws - Sen. Mark Blasdel

SJ 12 - Study net metering laws - Sen. Pat Connell

EXECUTIVE ACTION TAKEN:

SJ 12 DO PASS AS AMENDED SB 327 DO PASS.

Comments:

SEN. Roger Webb. Chair

MONTANA STATE SENATE

Roll Call

ENERGY & TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

DATE: February 17, 2015

		_
NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT/ EXCUSED
CHAIRMAN ROGER WEBB	X	
VICE CHAIRMAN DUANE ANKNEY	X	
SENATOR MARK BLASDEL	· ×	
SENATOR PAT CONNELL	X	
SENATOR ROBYN DRISCOLL	X	
SENATOR LLEW JONES		×
SENATOR DOUG KARY	×	
SENATOR JIM KEANE	×	·
SENATOR BOB KEENAN		X.
SENATOR CLIFF LARSEN	X	
SENATOR MARY MCNALLY	Y	
SENATOR BRUCE TUTVEDT		X
SENATOR JONATHAN WINDY BOY		K



SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 17, 2015 Page 1 of 1

Madame President:

We, your committee on Energy and Telecommunications report that Senate Bill 327 (first reading copy -- white) do pass.

Signed:

Senator Roger Webb, Chair

- END -

Committee Vote:
Yes 11, No 1
Fiscal Note Required ___



SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 17, 2015 Page 1 of 1

Madame President:

We, your committee on Energy and Telecommunications report that Senate Joint Resolution 12 (first reading copy -- white) do pass as amended.

Signed:

Senator Røger Webb, Chair

And, that such amendments read:

1. Page 1, line 10.

Strike: "whether" through "systems,"

2. Page 1, line 11.

Following: "customers"

Strike: ","

3. Page 1, line 29.

Strike: "must"
Insert: "may"

- END -

Committee Vote:

Yes 12, No 0

Fiscal Note Required __

MONTANA STATE SENATE

Roll Call Vote

ENERGY & TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

DATE 2	17	BILL NO 327 MOTION NO	
MOTION:]		PASS	

NAME	AYE	NAY	If Proxy Vote, check here & include signed Proxy Form with minutes
V. CHAIRMAN DUANE ANKNEY (R)	X		
SENATOR MARK BLASDEL(R)	X		
SENATOR PAT CONNELL (R)	Y		
SENATOR ROBYN DRISCOLL (D)	Y		
SENATOR LLEW JONES (R)		_	
SENATOR DOUG KARY (R)	X		
SENATOR JIM KEANE (D)	×.		
SENATOR BOB KEENAN (R)	X		X
SENATOR CLIFF LARSEN (D)		X	
SENATOR MARY MCNALLY (D)	X	,	
SENATOR BRUCE TUTVEDT (R)	×		
SENATOR JOHNATHAN WINDY BOY (D)	X		×
CHAIRMAN ROGER WEBB (R)			
13 Members			

N/V

SENATE PROXY

I, Senator	than Windy Roy, hereby authorize Senator
Lar	to vote my proxy before the Senate
ENERGY & TELEC	OMMUNICATIONS meeting held on
,	2015.
Senator Signature	Do 2/17/15

Said authorization is as follows: (mark only one)

All votes, including amendments.

- All votes as directed below on the listed bills, and all other votes.
- Uotes only as directed below.

Bill No./Amendment No.	Aye	No
58327	X	
1000	1	
5JR 12	X	
	<u> </u>	
		(

SEI	VA	T	E	PR	20	X	Y	7

I, Senator KEEN	, hereby authorize Se	nator
ANKNEY		
	OMMUNICATIONS meeting held on	
	2015.	
Be 800	mor) 2/17	
Senator Signature	Date	
Said authorization	is as follows: (mark only one)	
All votes, i	ncluding amendments.	
□ All votes a	s directed below on the listed bills, and all other vote	es.
□ Votes only	as directed below.	
Bill No./A	mendment No. Aye No	
Senate	B ₁ 327 X	
SIR 12	- X	

Tuesday, February 17, 2015

SB 327 - Revise qualifying facility laws

Sponsor: Sen. Mark Blasdel

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT		4	_	
Name Vohn Fizzpyzzw	Representing	Support	Oppose	Info
Nohr Firmunan	NWE	X		

Tuesday, February 17, 2015

SB 305 - Revise renewable energy laws

Sponsor: Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT				4
Name	Representing	Support	Oppose	Info
Juhn Firmmanoll	NWE	X		
		A		
Kula Mak:	MEIC		X	
Steve Tyrrel	MWR		X	
tets Wish	Colony Wind		X	
Rhyno Stillich held	MT WIND Resources		X	
Nex VIIman	ne			
Garnette Markin	DEO	Z,	V	
Tom Hepperocl	New Colon Wind LCC			
Jeff L. Sox	Dono alla Nxvitri ret		X	
201	I MENTER SIN INVITATION			
				`

Tuesday, February 17, 2015 SB 312 - Generally revise USB laws

Sponsor: Sen. Mike Phillips

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT				
Name	Representing	Support	Oppose	Info
Ken Morrison	Cherry Share			X
BillMetre	KG		×	
Steve ab	Legislative Qudit			X
Kila Maki	MEIC	×		
GALT. MAVR	A MOA		X	
	1			
				<u> </u>

Tuesday, February 17, 2015
SJ 12 - Study net metering laws

Sponsor: Sen. Pat Connell

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT			Y	·
Name	Representing	Support	Oppose	Info
Seho Farmanile	Nw =	X		
Diright Rose	IREW Z33	X		
LeithAllen	JBEW233			
Kyla Mak	MEIC		\times	
Chis Cevers	MT AFL-CIO	X	,	
Dan Flyn	1BEW 44			
Mal Vilman	MCV			
Len Browner	MREA		レ	
Joff L. Fix	Reneable North West		1	
Jake Brown	MTPIRG	X		
				,
				\

Additional Documents

SENATE: Energy & Telecomm.

Bill No.

Amendments to Senate Joint Resolution No. 12 1st Reading Copy

Requested by Senator Robyn Driscoll

For the Senate Energy and Telecommunications Committee

Prepared by Sonja Nowakowski February 18, 2015 (7:55am)

1. Page 1, line 10.

Strike: "whether" through "systems,"

2. Page 1, line 11.
Following: "customers"

Strike: ","

3. Page 1, line 29.

Strike: "must" Insert: "may"

- END -

Montana State Legislature

2015 Session

This additional document is entitled:
Universal System
Benefits Program

It cannot be scanned, therefore only the small part of the front/inside cover and the table of tent has been scanned to aid in your research.

The original exhibits are on file at the Montana Historical Society and may be viewed there.

Montana Historical Society Archives 225 N. Roberts Helena MT 59620-1201 2015 Legislative Scanner Susie Hamilton

SENATE: Energy & Telecomm.

Date: 2 17 2015

Bill No. SB 3/2



A Report to the Montana Legislature

Performance Audit

Universal System Benefits Program

Public Service Commission

Department of Revenue

MAY 2014

LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
DIVISION

13P-06

LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE

REPRESENTATIVES

RANDY BRODEHL, CHAIR Randybrodehl57@gmail.com

VIRGINIA COURT Vjchd52@yahoo.com

MIKE CUFFE mcuffe@interbel.net MARY MCNALLY mcnallyhd49@gmail.com

RYAN OSMUNDSON
Ryanosmundson@gmail.com

J.P. POMNICHOWSKI pomnicho@montanadsl.net

SENATORS

DEE BROWN repdee@yahoo.com

TAYLOR BROWN taylor@northernbroadcasting.com

Greg Jergeson, Vice Chair jergeson4senator@yahoo.com

SUE MALEK senatormalek@gmail.com

Fredrick (Eric) Moore mail@SenatorEricMoore.com

MITCH TROPILA tropila@mt.net

Members serve until a member's legislative term of office ends or until a successor is appointed, whichever occurs first.

\$5-13-202(2), MCA

FRAUD HOTLINE
(STATEWIDE)
1-800-222-4446
(IN HELENA)
444-4446
ladhotline@mt.gov

PERFORMANCE AUDITS

ih

Performance audits conducted by the Legislative Audit Division are designed to assess state government operations. From the audit work, a determination is made as to whether agencies and programs are accomplishing their purposes, and whether they can do so with greater efficiency and economy.

We conducted this performance audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. Members of the performance audit staff hold degrees in disciplines appropriate to the audit process.

Performance audits are performed at the request of the Legislative Audit Committee which is a bicameral and bipartisan standing committee of the Montana Legislature. The committee consists of six members of the Senate and six members of the House of Representatives.

AUDIT STAFF

LISA BLANFORD

STEVE ERB

Reports can be found in electronic format at: http://leg.mt.gov/audit

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Tables	ii
	Elected, Appointed, and Administrative Officials	i
	Report Summary	S-1
CHAPTER	I – INTRODUCTION	1
	Introduction	1
	Organizational Responsibilities	1
	Audit Objectives	1
	Audit Scope	
	Audit Methodologies	2
	Report Organization	3
CHAPTER I	II – BACKGROUND	5
	Universal System Benefits Programs Nationwide	5
	Montana's Universal System Benefits Program	5
	Differences Between Utility Providers	5
	Statutes and Administrative Rules	6
	Universal System Benefits Programs of Natural Gas Utilities	6
	Universal System Benefits Programs of Electric Utilities.	7
	Large Customers' USB Activities	8
	Rural Electric Cooperative Utilities	8
	Public Service Commission Responsibilities	8
	Department of Revenue Responsibilities	9
	Department of Revenue Administrative Rules	9
CHAPTER I	III – THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION	
	Introduction	11
	Department of Public Service Regulation	11
	Regulatory Process	11
	All Utilities Are Required to Assess USB Charges	12
	Not All Utilities Are Collecting USB Charges	12
	PSC Has Permitted Natural Gas Utilities to Use USB Funds to Support Expenditures No	ot
	Authorized by Statutes	13
	Natural Gas USB Funds Used for Research and Development	13
	USB Funds Used to Convert Propane Fuel Distribution System	14
	USB Funds to Be Reimbursed to Natural Gas Customer	15
CHAPTER I	V – THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	17
	Introduction/	17
	DOR Can Improve Large Customer Reporting Compliance	18
	Not All Large Customers File Required USB Reports With DOR	18
	Rural Electric Cooperative Reporting	19
	More Actions Can Be Taken to Identify Large Customers	20
	Unreported USB Expenditures Reduce Public's Ability to Challenge Expenditures	20
	Opportunities Exist to Re-evaluate Large Customer Self-Direct Reporting and Review Pr	ocess
	A - Control December 1	21
	Activities Limiting Reporting and Review Effectiveness	21
	Evaluation Standards Affect Cost-Effectiveness Determination	22